

Docket No: 4-30598/A

Sys-2068

Serial No. 09/237,291

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: L. Murray et al.

Serial No.: 09/237,291 ) Art Unit:

Filed On: January 25, 1999 ) Exami

1636

Examiner: M. Schmidt

For: EXPANDED AND GENETICALLY MODIFIED POPULATIONS OF HUMAN HEMATOPOIETIC STEM CELLS

## **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on August \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 1999

Chris Carter

## **AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action dated May 12, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

AUG 1 1 1999

In the Claims:

18.(amended) A method for genetically modifying [a] human hematopoietic stem [cell] cells, comprising

(a) contacting a [gene delivery vehicle] <u>vector</u> comprising a polynucleotide sequence <u>encoding a neterologous gene</u> with a population of hematopoietic stem cells cultured in the presence of an effective amount of a mpl ligand and a flt3 ligand <u>each provided</u> in a concentration range of about 0.1 ng/mL to about 500 ng/mL,

wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of retroviral vectors, adenoviral vectors,